

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
ADVOCACY & AWARENESS COMMITTEE**

IAC Conference Room  
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
September 3, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

Karen Ellerbrook, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Pam Hicks

Members present via teleconference: Karen Ellerbrook, Jeanne Mirro (ex officio)

Members absent: Irene Smith-King, Gilberto Cárdenas, Dick Stifel, Judy Hess

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Rex Van Zant, Laura Frank, Lydia Zacharias, Dennis Hardin

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Ellerbrook convened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Ms. Mirro moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded. Motion passed.

3. **IAC Advocacy Update.** Mr. Ricci reported that the result of the special session of the Indiana legislature was a 20% cut in the IAC budget from the previous year. The FY2010 spending plan has been submitted to the state budget office. Ms. Ellerbrook encouraged everyone to continue their advocacy efforts with lawmakers.

4. **State Arts Advocates Update.** Mr. Ricci reported that Terry Whitt Bailey from Muncie is the new president of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts. Mr. Ricci is preparing personal letters to legislators covering IAC activities during the break between sessions of the legislature. He would like to organize a meeting with state senator Luke Kenley, head of the budget committee. A discussion followed concerning other individuals who would round out the contingent from arts advocacy. Key messages for legislators were determined to be economic development, arts in education, and the case for funding during the current economic downturn.

5. **Governor's Arts Awards Update.** Mr. Ricci reported that a planning meeting was held in Muncie on September 2, and that plans are in good shape for the September 25 presentation of the Governor's Arts Awards. Cornerstone Center for the Arts, which is hosting the event, has met their sponsorship goal of \$40,000. Mr. Van Zant distributed images of the award designed by India Cruse-Griffin of Richmond. Mr. Ricci emphasized that the event will be a prime opportunity to send a message to the Governor about the importance of the arts in the state of Indiana, and IAC should solidify its message around cultural history, education, and the impact

of the economy on the arts. Ms. Ellerbrook offered thanks to Rex Van Zant, Laura Frank, and Lydia Zacharias for their efforts in planning the Governor's Arts Awards.

**6. New Business.** Ms. Ellerbrook mentioned the new Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, Rocco Landesman. Mr. Ricci reported that IAC was the winner of the National Accessibility Leadership Award in the amount of \$30,000. IAC staff will attend the award ceremony in New York City in January 2010. Mr. Landesman of the NEA will reportedly present the award in person. Ms. Mirro suggested that a letter of welcome be prepared from IAC to Mr. Landesman. Ms. Ellerbrook inquired about the at-large membership of the Advocacy & Awareness Committee. Mr. Ricci led a discussion of possible candidates to fill those slots before the next meeting of the committee.

**7. Old Business.** Mr. Van Zant reported that the state Office of Management & Budget now requires that a report from all state agencies showing planned marketing expenses for the fiscal year be submitted for their approval. Ms. Frank distributed a handout (attached) showing current E-communications efforts by the IAC, noting that the Commission now has a Face Book page.

**8. Adjourn.** Ms. Mirro moved to adjourn. Ms. Hicks seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.